

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 196882

EXDIS: ROME FOR FODAG

E O 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FAO, OCON, VN, VS

SUBJ: VIETNAMESE PARTICIPATION IN THE FAO REGIONAL
CONFERENCE

MANILA FOR USDEL TO FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

1. IN DEALING WITH THE QUESTION OF SRV PARTICIPATION IN THE
REGIONAL CONFERENCE, YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE
CONSIDERATION THAT WE WISH TO MAINTAIN POLITICAL FLEXIBIL-
ITY ON OUR POSITION WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE SRV PARTICIPATION
IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

2. ACCORDINGLY, SHOULD THE SRV SEEK TO PARTICIPATE AS
SUCCESSOR STATE TO THE RVN, OR OTHERWISE SEEK TO
PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER, YOU SHOULD RESTRICT YOUR

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REACTION TO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE: THE UNITED

STATES NOTES THAT, WITH RESPECT TO THE SEATING OF THE DELEGATION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, THIS REGIONAL CONFERENCE APPEARS TO HAVE TAKEN A POSITION ON A MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION ISSUE WHICH IS PROPERLY THE PREROGATIVE OF THE FAO'S CONFERENCE. WE, THEREFORE, RESERVE OUR POSITION ON THE MATTER UNTIL IT IS RAISED IN THE NORMAL MANNER IN THE FAO CONFERENCE. END QUOTE.

3. THE FOREGOING STATEMENT SHOULD NOT BE HIGHLIGHTED AND MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE DELEGATION'S OPENING STATEMENT ON THE TECHNICAL ISSUES BEFORE THE CONFERENCE. THE STATEMENT SHOULD ALSO SERVE AS GUIDANCE IN THE EVENT OF PRESS INQUIRIES.

4. THE FOREGOING POSITION IS BASED UPON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE SRV WILL SEEK TO PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER, IMPLICITLY OR EXPLICITLY THE SUCCESSOR STATE TO THE RVN. WE ALSO ASSUME THAT SHOULD THE ISSUE OF THE SRV'S SEATING COME TO A VOTE IN THE CONFERENCE WE WOULD LOSE OVERWHELMINGLY. SHOULD ANY OF THESE ASSUMPTIONS NOT BE VALID, YOU SHOULD REPORT IMMEDIATELY WITH YOUR ANALYSIS AND YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. FOR EMBASSY: WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S GIVING ITS ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER AND PROVIDING ITS GUIDANCE AND JUDGMENT TO THE DELEGATION AND TO THE DEPARTMENT. HABIB

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NNN

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